



ERIE COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

ERIE COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Please refer to our internet address at: www.erie.gov

A NON-REFUNDABLE \$20.00 PROCESSING FEE
OR APPLICATION FEE WAIVER AND CERTIFICATION FORM MUST ACCOMPANY EACH APPLICATION
(CHECK OR MONEY ORDER ONLY – PAYABLE TO: ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL)
See reverse side of this announcement for fee waiver information

Software Architect

NO. 16-145

\$73,000

RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS: THERE ARE NO RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THIS EXAMINATION. At present there is one vacancy at Erie 1 BOCES with an annual salary of \$73,000.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Candidates must meet one of the following requirements on or before JANUARY 9, 2013:

- A. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Master's Degree in Computer Science, Information Technology or related field and three years of experience in software application design and development, software programming and/or maintenance, two years of which included mentoring and *supervision; or:
- B. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science, Information Technology or related field and four years of experience in software application design and development, software programming and/or maintenance, two years of which included mentoring and *supervision; or:
- C. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered two or four year college with an Associate's Degree in Computer Science, Information Technology or related field and six years of experience in software application design and development, software programming and/or maintenance, two years of which included mentoring and *supervision; or:
- D. Any equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of (A), (B), and (C).

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:

Under current New York State Law, candidates seeking employment with school districts in New York State will be required to undergo fingerprinting and a criminal history background check prior to appointment. A processing fee may be required.

Notice to Candidates: Transcripts will now be accepted by the Department of Personnel ONLY at time of application.

All subsequent transcripts must be submitted at time of interview.

NOTES: **1. *Supervision** – Responsible direction and control of subordinate employees. This involves the assignment of work, approval of work, training, evaluation and discipline of employees. The supervisory aspects must be an integral part of the job, not incidental or occasional. **2.** Verifiable part-time and/or volunteer experience will be pro-rated toward meeting the experience requirements. **3.** Your degree and/or college credit must have been awarded by a regionally accredited college or university or one recognized by the New York State Education Department as following acceptable educational practices. A grade of "D" or better is necessary for a course to be credited as successfully completed. If your degree and/or college credit was awarded by an educational institution outside of the United States and its territories, you must provide independent verification of equivalency. You can write to this Department for a list of acceptable companies providing this service; you must pay the required evaluation fee

A medical examination may be required before appointment.

VETERANS: PROOF OF SERVICE MUST BE SUBMITTED BEFORE LIST IS ESTABLISHED
TO RECEIVE ADDITIONAL POINTS. *(See application for more information.)*

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY
JANUARY 9, 2013**

- SEE REVERSE SIDE -

DUTIES: A ***Software Architect*** is responsible for providing technical leadership in the design, development, building, configuration, integration, testing and operation of custom programming projects and systems, including in-house and third party software components, as well as off-the-shelf software modules, in order to provide quality IT services to user departments; provides supervision and leadership to teams and team members with responsibility for the preparation of project plans, design of software module architecture, documentation and presentation of designs and code; collects and organizes functional requirements, analyzes those requirements and develops a conceptual (logical) representation of the requirements; prepares work-flow analyses and process re-engineering; operates and refines application systems used in schools to ensure they function reliably and efficiently; assists in preparing RFP's for vendor software, software tools and components and manages vendor relationships; designs and develops Web-based, multi-tier using HTML, Java, and SQL, or other tools appropriate to the application; uses system configuration management and version control tools in the various life-cycle stages of a system; evaluates database schemas to meet the data needs of the schools as identified in requirements analysis or school mandates; designs, develops and administers systems based upon relational database management software such as Oracle and Microsoft SQL Server, or upon object-oriented database software; uses computer applications or other automated systems such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, email and database software in performing work assignments; maintains current knowledge of new and emerging web and security technology; advises IT Security staff on web, portal and LDAP interfaces; may perform other incidental tasks, as required.

SUBJECT OF EXAMINATION: The examination will consist of two parts: a rated evaluation of training and experience to be conducted on the Internet, and a qualifying PC-administered test. You must pass the evaluation of training and experience in order to take the qualifying PC administered test. You must pass both tests in order to be considered for appointment. Only your rating on the evaluation of training and experience will be considered when computing final scores. *Erie County reserves the right to administer the PC-based qualifying test to only those candidates who are reachable for appointment and selected by the appointing authority.*

RATED EVALUATION OF TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: You will complete a questionnaire that asks for specific information on your information technology education (formal degrees, IT-related training courses, certifications) and experience. You will also be asked to briefly describe a significant achievement in each of the job's areas and to provide the name and contact information for someone who can verify your information. The information you provide about your experience will be rated against the following areas:

1. BUSINESS/SYSTEMS ANALYSIS;
2. WEB SITE DEVELOPMENT.

IMPORTANT: The Training and experience questionnaire will be conducted on the internet. Instructions for completing this questionnaire will be sent to all approved candidates after the last filing date for this examination.

QUALIFYING TESTS:

QUALIFYING MULTIPLE-CHOICE TEST OF LOGICAL REASONING AND INTERPRETING INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPUTER-RELATED POSITIONS – These questions test for ability to reason logically and interpret instructions in a computer-related context. They cover verbal and quantitative reasoning, flowchart interpretation and applying written directions. The verbal and quantitative reasoning questions include logical implications (e.g., if A and B, then C) and relations (e.g., greater than). Knowledge of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division is necessary, but neither mathematical sophistication nor computational speed is needed. The flowchart interpretation questions require prior knowledge of flowchart conventions. The interpreting instructions questions provide the instructions and specific rules for applying them. All the information needed to answer the questions is presented with the questions.

QUALIFYING SIMULATION TEST ON WORKING EFFECTIVELY WITH OTHERS TO SOLVE JOB-RELATED PROBLEMS – This test requires candidates to assume the role of a staff member in an Information Technology work group who is working with colleagues during a time of change in policy or procedure, in a particular agency. During the test, candidates will be required to deal with obstacles within the working environment, which includes peer relations and the demands of handling multiple tasks. Candidates will be required to demonstrate the ability to be flexible, creative and persistent as a team player. They will also need to demonstrate the ability to cooperate, show initiative, and establish positive working relationships with peers and administrators.

WAIVER POLICY FOR QUALIFYING TEST: If a candidate has previously passed an IT qualifying Test prepared by the New York State Department of Civil Service **within the last two years** and using the same test plan as announced, the qualifying test may be waived. A candidate requesting such a waiver must submit verifiable evidence of passing the qualifying test, including the name of the Civil Service agency that administered the test and the test date.

RETEST POLICY: Candidates who fail the qualifying PC-administered test may request one retest by writing to the Erie County Department of Personnel. A waiting period of six months is required before the retest is administered.

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES: Unless otherwise noted candidates are permitted to use a quiet, hand held, solar or battery powered calculator. Devices with typewriter keyboards, "Spell Checkers", "Personal Digital Assistants", "Address Books", "Language Translators", "Dictionaries", or any similar devices are prohibited. You may not bring books or other reference materials.

**QUALIFYING TEST SCORES MAY BE BANKED AND APPLIED TO
FUTURE EXAMINATIONS FOR TITLES THAT REQUIRE THE SAME TEST PLAN.**

(Continued on next page)

INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

APPLICATION FORMS: You may obtain these forms in person at the Erie County Personnel Department, Rath County Office Building, 95 Franklin St., Buffalo. Forms are also available in the libraries and at Town, Village and School District administrative offices.

Mail your application form when completed to the Erie County Department of Personnel, 95 Franklin St., Buffalo, NY 14202.

Candidates who submit incomplete applications and documentation may be disqualified. The Erie County Department of Personnel reserves the right to reject for lateness or to accept applications filed after the advertised filing period.

MILITARY STATUS: Active duty military personnel may file an application for this exam. A special military make-up examination will be conducted for any member of the armed forces of the United States who has duly filed a timely application but who was deprived of the opportunity to compete in the scheduled exam due to active military duty. Special conditions apply to these requests and may be reviewed at the Erie County Department of Personnel.

VETERANS: Disabled and non-disabled veterans as defined in Section 85, New York State Civil Service Law, will have 10 and 5 points, respectively added to their earned scores if successful in the examination. You must claim these credits when you file application but you have an option to waive them any time prior to appointment. If you have already used these credits for a permanent position in NYS, you may not claim them again.

In conformance with section 85-a of the Civil Service Law, **CHILDREN OF FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY** shall be entitled to receive an additional ten points in a competitive examination for original appointment in the same municipality in which his or her parent has served. If you are qualified to participate in this examination and are a child of a firefighter or police officer killed in the line of duty in this municipality, please inform this office of this matter when you submit your application for examination. A candidate claiming such credit has a minimum of two months from the application deadline to provide the necessary documentation to verify additional credit eligibility. However, no credit may be added after the eligible list has been established.

MULTIPLE EXAMINATIONS SCHEDULED FOR THE SAME DAY: If you have applied to take a written test announced by either one or several local jurisdictions (county, town, city) scheduled to be held on the same test date as this written test, you must notify each of the local jurisdictions no later than **two weeks** before the test date, so they can make arrangements for taking all tests at one test site. ****For this exam, please complete and submit an Erie County EXAMS CROSS-FILER Form with your Erie County exam application to alert Erie County Civil Service about your additional exams being held at other locations on the same day.**** The Cross-Filer Form is found online at: www2.erie.gov/employment/index.php?q=applications or call (716) 858-8484. All examinations for positions in State government will be held at a State examination center. You will be advised by letter when and where to report for your examinations.

ADMISSION TO EXAMINATION: Notice to appear for the test will be conditional as review of application for minimum requirements may not be made until after the written test. Call or write this Department if you have not received your notice 3 days before the date of the test. You may not be admitted to the examination room without official notice.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Applicants whose religious beliefs prevent their taking examinations before sundown on Saturday and physically handicapped candidates who require special examination facilities should so inform the Erie County Department of Personnel, by a separately mailed letter at the earliest possible date before the test.

RATINGS REQUIRED: Tests are rated on a scale of 100 with a passing mark at 70. Unless the announcement states otherwise, you must pass the written test and the oral test, if any. Test instructions may further divide the tests into parts and set minimum standards for each part.

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: If a subject of the examination, training and experience may not be rated if all passing candidates are expected to be immediately reachable for appointment. If rated, training and experience will be based on the statements in your application subject to verification. If this examination includes a qualifying written test, candidates admitted to the test will have conditional approval only. Final decision regarding the qualifications of candidates rests with the New York State Department of Civil Service.

VERIFICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS: Candidates may be investigated or called for an interview to verify information contained on the application.

Verifiable part-time and/or volunteer experience may be pro-rated toward meeting full-time experience requirements.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION: You may be required to take a medical examination to determine if you are medically and physically capable of performing the duties of the position.

In accordance with State Law, Governor's Executive Order 6, and Section 504 of the Federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended the County of Erie does not discriminate against handicapped persons in access to employment, during employment, or in any of its programs and activities.

ELIGIBLE LIST: The eligible list resulting from an examination may also be used for appointment to the same title or to any other title deemed to be similar and appropriate. Eligible lists are active for a minimum of one year and a maximum of four years from the date established.

Background Investigation: Applicants may be required to undergo a State and national criminal history background investigation, which will include a fingerprint check, to determine suitability for appointment. Failure to meet the standards for the background investigation may result in disqualification. Applicants may be required to pay a fee for the investigation.

NOTE: Fingerprints are sometimes required at the time of appointment. When they are required, the fee involved must be paid by the appointee.

****IMPORTANT APPLICATION FEE – READ CAREFULLY****

A \$20.00 filing fee is required for this exam. The required fee must accompany your application. Send or bring check or money order made payable to Erie County Personnel Department and write the examination number(s) on your check or money order. Do not send or bring cash, as the County cannot be responsible for cash payment. As no refund will be made, you are urged to compare your qualifications carefully with the requirements for admission and file only for those examinations for which you are clearly qualified.

APPLICATION FEE WAIVER: A waiver of application fee will be allowed if you are unemployed and primarily responsible for the support of a household. In addition, a waiver of application fee will be allowed if you are determined eligible for Medicaid, or receiving Supplemental Security Income payments, or Public Assistance (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families/Family Assistance or Safety Net Assistance) or are certified Job Training Partnership Act/Workforce Investment Act eligible through a State or local social service agency.

All claims for application fee waiver are subject to verification. If you can verify eligibility for application fee waiver, complete a "Request for Application Fee Waiver and Certification" form and submit it with your application by the close of business on the Application Deadline as listed on the Examination Announcement. The form is available at the Erie County Personnel Department, 95 Franklin Street, Buffalo, NY (Room 604) or can be downloaded from the County's website at www.erie.gov. Click on "County Departments and Agencies", then "Erie County Civil Service".

This examination is prepared and rated by the New York State Department of Civil Service, and held in compliance with the New York State Civil Service Law and the rules and regulations of the New York State Department of Civil Service.